

REMARKS

Applicants note, with appreciation, that the Examiner has allowed method Claims 39-41. Further, the Examiner has indicated that apparatus Claims 9-23, 28, 29 and 36-38 would be allowed if rewritten to incorporate the features of the independent claims from which they depend and all intervening dependent claims. For the sake of clarity, Claims 9 and 36 have been cancelled and replaced by independent Claims 42 and 43, respectively. Claim 42 has been written to include the features of independent Claim 1 and its dependent Claims 2-9, and Claim 43 has been written to include the features of independent Claim 33 and its dependent Claims 34-36. Besides Claims 9 and 36, Claims 1, 24-28, and 33 have been cancelled.

A new independent Claim 44 has been added to replace independent Claim 1. This claim is directed to a device comprising a winding means, a supporting means and a guiding means, and is based on former Claims 1, 27 and 28, which the Examiner had determined to be allowable in combination. New Claim 45, which depends from Claim 44, recites features of the guiding means that were previously recited in former Claim 28. A new independent Claim 46 has been added that recites features of Claims 44, 45 and 38.

Amendments have also been made to Claims 11, 18, 30 and 38. While not introducing new matter, the amendments clarify that the guiding means of the invention may be distinguished from the supporting means. Claims 13 and 29 have been amended to remove unnecessary language.

In view of the foregoing amendments, Applicants respectfully request allowance of independent Claim 42 and its dependent Claims 10-23, and of

independent Claim 43 and its dependent Claims 37 and 38. Applicants further request examination and allowance of independent Claim 44 and its dependent claim 29, and of new Claim 46 and its dependent Claims 34 and 35. If such action cannot be taken, the Examiner is cordially invited to place a telephone call to Applicants' attorney in order that any outstanding issue may be resolved without the issuance of a further Office Action.

Fees in the amount of \$400 for two additional independent claims are believed to be due in connection with the submission of this Amendment. If there are any additional fees due as a result of this Amendment, including extension and petition fees, the Examiner is hereby authorized to charge them to Deposit Account No. 501561.

Respectfully Submitted,

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